



ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 9, 1992 -- Railroad freight traffic rebounded sharply last week from the effects of the two-day rail strike the week before, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

"While the strike obviously had some effect on last week's loadings, it's difficult to determine the magnitude of that impact -- especially since last week's loadings were further distorted by the July Fourth holiday," said Dr. Harvey A. Levine, vice president of the AAR's economics and finance department.

Carloadings during the week ended July 4 totaled 299,275, up 15.9 percent from the comparable week of 1991 with loadings up 27.2 percent in East and 6.4 percent in the West. Intermodal traffic, which is not included in carloadings, totaled 120,130 containers and trailers, up 21.7 percent from the corresponding 1991 week. Total volume was estimated a 19.0 billion ton-miles, up 18.0 percent from 1991.

Cumulative volume for the first 27 weeks of 1992 totaled 8,650,356 carloads, up 2.1 percent from the comparable 1991 period. "That increase is especially encouraging, given the 2.0 percent decrease in coal -- a commodity that accounts for 41 percent of rail tonnage," Dr. Levine said.

Also for the first 27 weeks of 1992, intermodal traffic totaled 3,326,849 trailers and containers, up 8.0 percent from 1991. Ton-miles were estimated at 544.7 billion, up 4.3 percent.

Railroads reporting to the AAR account for 94 percent of carloadings and 97 percent of intermodal volume.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS FOR THE WEEK ENDING JULY 4, 1992

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP					
COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING JULY 4, 1992	COMPARISON WITH			
		SAME WEEK OF 1991	CHANGE	PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	24,024	21,581	11.3 %	20,830	15.3 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	1,970	1,514	30.1	1,712	15.1
Metallic Ores	20,680	17,698	16.8	18,404	12.4
Coal	110,112	87,931	25.2	89,138	23.5
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	13,083	11,512	13.6	11,866	10.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	7,904	8,222	-3.9	6,256	26.3
Grain Mill Products	8,982	8,795	2.1	8,544	5.1
Food & Kindred Products	7,927	7,411	7.0	6,633	19.5
Primary Forest Products	8,087	6,578	22.9	7,940	1.9
Lumber & Wood Products	5,322	4,078	30.5	5,244	1.5
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,277	9,936	3.4	9,446	8.8
Chemicals	24,771	24,665	0.4	23,244	6.6
Petroleum Products	5,354	4,525	18.3	4,908	9.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	8,783	8,397	4.6	8,188	7.3
Coke	5,455	5,311	2.7	5,478	-0.4
Metals & Products	8,840	8,249	7.2	6,963	27.0
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	13,685	10,123	35.2	14,146	-3.3
Waste & Scrap Materials	7,319	5,776	26.7	6,775	8.0
All Other Carloads	6,700	5,946	12.7	5,511	21.6
Total	299,275	258,248	15.9 %	261,226	14.6 %

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES						
TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING JULY 4, 1992			CUMULATIVE: 27 WEEKS ENDING JULY 4, 1992		
	1992	1991	CHANGE	1992	1991	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	299,275	258,248	15.9 %	8,650,356	8,469,808	2.1 %
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	61,031	50,393	21.1	1,651,745	1,595,687	3.5
Containers	59,099	48,284	22.4	1,675,104	1,484,487	12.8
Total	120,130	98,677	21.7	3,326,849	3,080,174	8.0
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	19.0	16.1	18.0 %	544.7	522.1	4.3 %